MEMBER: It is three miles away.

DEWAN: If a private agency runs a school anywhere in the town to suit the convenience of the people of Vaikcm, the Director will consider the question of grant-in-aid.

The question of Higher Grade Vernacular Schools at Kallara and Idayazham has been referred to the Inspector of Schools whose report is awaited.

In regard to the dispensary at Kaduthuruthi, I have nothing to add to what I said on the same subject last year.

### 122. Needs of the Kottayam taluk, Group II.

MR. DEVASIA VARKEY (*Member, Kottayam taluk, Group II*) said that a dispensary was established at Atirampuzha about twenty years ago in recognition of the importance of the place. Atirampuzha was then the most important place in the Ettumanur taluk. It had grown in importance since then and had become the seat of a market and two or three schools; there were also a big printing press and several schools at Mannanam close by. Atirampuzha was also a place which had easy communication both by water and by land with the neighbouring villages. In spite of all these facts the Medical Board had recommended the removal of the Atirampuzha dispensary to the neighbourhood of the Ettumanur temple. Apart from the facilities at Atirampuzha, the proposed site near the temple was one not accessible to all classes of people. The dispensary should therefore be retained at Atirampuzha, and it had moreover to be converted into a district hospital. If this was not possible, a qualified doctor should be appointed and a new building should be provided for the hospital.

Secondly, the member requested that the water-lock in the Pennar todu should be repaired early, and sufficient funds provided for the maintenance of the water-lock and the canal every year.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Devasia Varkey, the idea of transferring the Atirampuzha dispensary to Ettumanur which the Administrative Board, Medical Services, at one time entertained, has since been dropped.

With regard to the Pennar todu and lock, I think it is rather an important matter and a difficult question and I should like the present Chief Engineer also to investigate the matter.

To go back to the Atirampuzha dispensary, the Administrative Board do not think that a necessity exists at present for converting it into a hospital now.

### 123. Needs of the Kottayam town.

MR. M. M. ABRAHAM MALIAKAL (*Member, Municipal Council, Kottayam*) speaking on the present condition of the District Hospital, Kottayam, said that a resident medical officer, one more lady doctor, a qualified nurse, and two more compounders should be appointed in the hospital. There were already a few nurses in the hospital, but in the opinion of the member, none of them was qualified for the work. He therefore proposed that, besides appointing an additional qualified nurse, two of the present nurses should be transferred to some other hospitals and two qualified nurses appointed in their stead. So far as accommodation in the hospital was concerned, it was entirely insufficient. The whole building had to be demolished and reconstructed, and at least a dozen kitchens had to be provided. In this connection, the member emphasised the need for the Inspecting Medical Officer paying constant visits to medical institutions, examining their needs and bringing them to the notice of Government.

The member next took up the question of constructing a good sub-jail at Kottayam. The present lock-up had only four rooms each 12 feet by 8 feet in size. In each of these rooms, no fewer than twenty-eight prisoners were shut up. The rooms were never washed or cleaned. Nor were the prisoners given good meals. There were also no arrangements for washing their cloth and cropping their hair. A spacious sub-jail with sufficient accommodation should therefore be put up.



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For this the member proposed the Sirkar land about 250 feet to the south of the police station. A non-official committee should also be appointed to examine and report on the condition of the prisoners from time to time.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Abraham Maliakal, this is the second time that the question of the Kottayam District Hospital has come up here. The question of a Resident Medical Officer was examined by the Administrative Medical Board and they have sent in proposals which are now under examination by Government.

The Administrative Board reports that there is already one lady doctor attached to the hospital and that the present position does not justify the appointment of a second lady doctor or additional nurses or compounders. That is the view they take.

MEMBER : I pray that Government should devote special attention to the hospital building.

DEWAN : The Government have received a sketch and plan for two wards. Further extension will be taken up after the construction of the new wards with 12 beds and necessary adjuncts to the building.

As regards the sub-jail I suppose you mean the police lock-up.

MEMBER : Yes.

DEWAN : The Government have ordered the Chief Engineer to take up at once the construction of additional cells.

As regards the appointment of non-official visitors to the sub-jail the Commissioner reports that rules have already been issued enjoining the local Magistrates and the Medical Officers to inspect the sub-jails once a week at least.

As regards the appointment of a non-official visitor he states that there is no departmental objection.

MEMBER : You must give the matter serious consideration, Sir.

DEWAN : The matter is being considered. It is quite possible to improve the accommodation and provide more convenience.

MEMBER : Mr. Pitt himself has stated that the condition of the prisoners in the lock-ups is very bad.

DEWAN : Their condition is being improved and Government have already sanctioned new measures for improving their accommodation and for providing convenience for them.

MEMBER : The sad condition of the Kottayam hospital—

DEWAN : I am afraid I cannot argue with you.

The Dewan then gave the following reply to the representation of Mr. Adam Sayyid Sulaiman Rowther (Subject No. 110) made earlier in the day :—

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Adam Sayyid Sulaiman Rowther, I did not have before me all the materials to answer some of your questions. So, I had to hold up the answers till after lunch.

In regard to the roads from Kunnikode to Pattazhi, the estimate is under preparation. The road from Kunnikode through Chackuvarakal to Anchal was sanctioned and the Government ordered acquisition of land for the road. The matter has been pending with the Dewan Peishkar, Quilon, for about a year.

The other roads mentioned by you will be considered.

MEMBER : The ryots themselves have opened the Anchal road. Only a few culverts are necessary. Unless these are constructed, that road will be absolutely useless.

DEWAN : The Government have asked the Land Revenue Commissioner to obtain a statement from the ryots expressing full consent to surrender lands 22 feet wide and also to obtain the necessary deposits from the ryots. The Government have already asked the Land Revenue Commissioner to take the necessary steps for the acquisition of lands. This was on the 10th March 1927. The position does not seem to have altered since.

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MEMBER : Orders may be issued for taking up steps immediately fo that.

DEWAN : As soon as land is acquired, the P. W. D. will get on with the work. They cannot do it when the land is not handed over to them.

MEMBER : The road from the Quilon-Shencotta road.

DEWAN : All that will be considered afterwards.

MEMBER : Two ferry boats are indispensable.

DEWAN : The Divisional Officer has promised to report after inspection on that. As soon as the Chief Engineer gets the report, he will deal with the matter.

MEMBER : Nothing has been said about the hospital.

DEWAN : The Administrative Board do not consider that it is necessary at present to raise the Punalur dispensary to a hospital.

MEMBER : An amount has already been sanctioned for constructing a new building for the hospital. But the Public Works Department has asked for more money.

DEWAN : The question of land acquisition has to be settled before the building is taken in hand.

You want lands in the Pathanapuram taluk to be disafforested and made available for registry. I may tell you that there are already 117870 acres of tarisu land available for registry ; while such large extent of tarisu land is available, there is no immediate justification for taking more lands out of the forests.

MEMBER: For that.....

DEWAN : You must take the answers given. You should not cross-question me.

The High Court do not consider it necessary at all to establish a Munsiff's court at Punalur.

The question of a new building for the local Vernacular Middle School is under consideration. At the moment the Director has reported as to the cost of acquiring the site.

You want district officers to spend two days in a month in the Pathanapuram taluk headquarters. I will ask you to count up the number of times the officers have come and visited your place. It is not possible to lay down a hard and fast rule for the district officers to visit any particular taluk for a number of days in a month.

### 124. Needs of the eastern pakuthies of Changanachery taluk.

MR. SANKARA PILLAI RAMANATHA PILLAI (*Member, Changanachery taluk, Group I*) dealt with the following needs of the eastern pakuthies of the Changanachery taluk.

(*a*) A dispensary at Manimala. There were no hospitals or dispensaries in the pakuthies of Manimala, Vellavoor, Kanjirapally South and Cheruvalli. The nearest hospital was the one at Kanjirapally ten miles away. But on the way to Kanjirapally there were the Manimala river and the Moolaiplakal *todu* which could not be crossed in the rainy season except at great risk. A hospital was therefore necessary at Manimala.

(2) An English High School at Kanjirapally. There were now English Middle Schools at Kanjirapally, Elamkulam, and Manimalai. The nearest High School was at Kottayam twenty-three miles away. The Middle School at Kanjirapally should therefore be converted into a High School.

(3) Construction of a bridge over the Manimala river on the Kanjirapally-Erumeli road and extension of the road from Peroothodu to Sabarimala and thence to the British frontier. The Manimala river became very violent in the rainy season, and it was extremely dangerous to cross the river then. A bridge should therefore

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